



Thank you for worshipping with us this morning. We extend a special welcome to our guests.

For Children: We have trained nursery staff (a paid nursery attendant as well as adult volunteers) for ages 0-4. The nursery is located on the first floor outside of the Community Room (accessible by the stairs from the Church Street entrance or via the elevator). Children ages 5 and above are invited to stay and worship with their families. Children's programs, books, and crayons are in the rear of the sanctuary near the welcome table.

Hymn selections can be found in the black hymnals in the pew racks or printed in the bulletin. If you are visiting and did not stop at the welcome desk, please stop by after the service. They would love to meet you, or please feel free to reach out to someone sitting near you and ask them questions about the service or church. Many of our visitors ask us about the time of offering. This is a time in our service when we respond to God's gifts of love by offering the gifts of our lives. For many of us, this is when we make a financial gift to the ministries and programs of our church. We also use this time to ask God how we might use the gifts of our hands and hearts in sharing God's love. If you are visiting, there is no obligation to give a financial gift. We are just glad you are worshipping with us.

Plates for offering are placed at the doors as you exit the sanctuary, or donate online at www.erucc.org/give or by scanning this code:



We ask that you please silence your cell phones during our worship service. We also ask that you refrain from applause after our choirs sing and allow the music to resonate in the quiet of the sanctuary and in your hearts. Our musicians are playing and singing for the glory of God. They know you appreciate their efforts and their gift.

Restrooms (equipped with changing stations) are located on the second floor of the church building and outside the Community Room and the Nursery.

There is more information about the church in this bulletin and our website: www.erucc.org.

Ministers and Staff of Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ

The Rev. Dr. Marvin L. Morgan ~ *Intentional Interim Senior Pastor* ~ mmorgan@erucc.org
The Rev. Kirstin Shrom-Rhoads ~ *Associate Pastor for Faith Formation & Parish Life* ~ ksrhoads@erucc.org
Alison E. Shafer ~ *Director of Music* | Tyler L. York ~ *Office Administrator* ~ tyork@erucc.org
Jaci Clayton ~ *Facilities Manager* ~ jclayton@erucc.org
Tricia Coffey ~ *Head Chimer & Children & Youth Choir Director*
Kelly Esslinger ~ *Assistant Director for Bell Choirs & Children's Music*
Jenna Duranko ~ *Social Media Assistant* | Ashley Murphy ~ *Nursery Attendant*

The Rev. Dr. Barbara Kershner Daniel ~ *Pastor Emerita*

The Rev. Fred Wenner ~ *Pastor Emeritus*

Elders of Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ

Marc Kline | Peter Brehm | Robin Cooney | Eric Weakly | Ave Barr | Matt Hueting



EVANGELICAL REFORMED
United Church of Christ
– An Open and Affirming Congregation –



April 14, 2024

Third Sunday of Easter

10:30 AM

The numbered hymns are from
The New Century Hymnal

*All who are able may stand

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Rebecca Shillingburg

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

PRELUDE

Jesus Loves Me

Chancel Handbell Choir
– Traditional

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

God of the morning is with us as we gather with songs of praise.

Here we find respite from a busy, frenetic world.

We gather in this place, finding the peace that God offers.

We are more at home within ourselves when we find our rest in Christ.

We are witnesses to God's glory, steadfast love, and faithfulness.

We see the beauty of creation and sing praises of joy!

We abide in God's love and keep God's commandments.

Today, we awaken to the call and show up fully to love one another.

Come, let us worship.

***OPENING PRAYER**

God of light and life,

we gather as witnesses to your abundant love.

We are amazed to discover you anew

through our prayers, our praise, and our offerings.

**God, you encourage us amidst our daily living
to become stewards of your love and grace.**

**We ask you to be here with us as we witness your love made real
through Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN**

For the Beauty of the Earth

#28

**For the beauty of the earth, for the splendor of the skies,
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies,
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.**

**For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.**

**For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thought and mild,
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.**

**For the good that love inspires, for a world where none exclude,
For a faith that never tires, and for every heart renewed,
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.**

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God, we are often busy.

We busy ourselves with quick responses and neat appearance.

**We get caught in the flow of hectic pace and too quickly give up
opportunities to be still and know you.**

God, forgive us when we become so busy we forget to pray.

**Forgive us when we are so enthralled by devices and gadgets that we
forget to look up and take notice.**

We fail to notice our neighbors.

We fail to notice the needs of others.

**Forgive us when we are so saturated by the news that we shut down
completely, we forget that we are called to be your servants, your
witnesses here and now.**

Wake us up to the work of love at hand.

**Forgive us when we choose apathy over attention,
when become hyper-vigilant in getting what we want that we forget to
attend with care to those we meet and greet throughout our days.**

We neglect to see the humanity in our fellow companions.

Forgive us when we falter. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

God knows our hearts.

When we gather and ask for forgiveness, God forgives.

Friends, be at peace; our sins are forgiven.

Amen.

– SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM –

INVITATION

WELCOME

Pastor: They were bringing children to Jesus that Jesus might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, Jesus was indignant, and said to them,

People: “**Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the realm of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the realm of God like a child shall not enter it.**”

Pastor: And Jesus took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.

ADDRESS

Pastor: Jesus said: Unless we are born anew, we cannot see the reign of God; unless we are born of water and the Spirit, we cannot enter God’s new order.

Paul the apostle said: All of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into Christ’s death. We are buried therefore with Christ by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead, to the glory of God, we too might walk in newness of life.

The sacrament of baptism is an outward and visible sign of the grace of God. Inasmuch as the promise of the gospel is not only to us but also to our children, baptism with water and the Holy Spirit is the mark of their acceptance into the care of Christ’s church, the sign and seal of their participation in God’s forgiveness, and the beginning of their growth into full Christian faith and discipleship.

People: **This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, forgiven of sin and one in Christ, members of Christ’s body.**

QUESTION ABOUT PARTICIPATION

Pastor: Do you desire to have your child baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Parent: We do.

Pastor: Will you encourage this child to renounce the powers of evil and to receive the freedom of new life in Christ?

Parent: We will, with the help of God.

Pastor: Will you teach this child that he may be led to profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

Parent: We will, with the help of God.

Pastor: Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciples, to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best you are able?

Parent: We do, with the help of God.

Pastor: Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow with this child in the Christian faith, to help this child to be a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, by celebrating Christ's presence, by furthering Christ's mission in all the world, and by offering the nurture of the Christian church so that he may affirm his baptism?

Parent: We do, with the help of God.

A BLESSING

Pastor: Bless by your Holy Spirit, gracious God, this water. By your Holy Spirit save those who confess the name of Jesus Christ, that sin may have no power over them. Create new life in the one baptized this day that he may rise in Christ. Glory to you eternal God, who was, who is, and who shall always be, world without end. Amen.

***CONGREGATIONAL ASSENT**

Pastor: Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism.

Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to the one about to be baptized, as he lives and grows in Christ?

Parent: We promise our love, support, and care.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Pastor: Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God.

Do you believe in God?

People: I believe in God.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ.

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit.

The congregation may be seated.

PRAYER OF BAPTISM

Pastor: Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

We thank you, God, for the gift of creation called forth by your saving Word. Before the world had shape and form, your Spirit moved over the waters. Out of the waters of the deep, you formed the firmament and brought forth the earth to sustain all life.

In the time of Noah, you washed the earth with the waters of the flood, and your ark of salvation bore a new beginning.

In the time of Moses, your people Israel passed through the Red Sea waters from slavery to freedom and crossed the flowing Jordan to enter the promised land.

In the fullness of time, you sent Jesus Christ, who was nurtured in the water of Mary's womb.

Jesus was baptized by John in the water of the Jordan, became living water to a woman at the Samaritan well, washed the feet of the disciples, and sent them forth to baptize all the nations by water and the Holy Spirit.

Now by your Holy Spirit, dear God, bless this sacred act of baptism, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ACT OF BAPTISM

Pastor: By what name will your child be called?

Parent: Brennen Robert Marsh.

Pastor: Brennen Robert Marsh, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

PRESENTATION OF THE BAPTIZED

PRAYER FOR THE BAPTIZED

Pastor: Let us pray for the one baptized today.

Gracious God, you have filled the world with joy by giving us the gift of Jesus. Bless this newly baptized person. May he be filled with joy; may he never be ashamed to confess a personal faith in you.

Bless the parents and sponsors of this child. May they always show their gratitude for the life you have given by loving and caring for Brennen.

Bless these your faithful people. Unite them in the peace of Christ and the company of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen

BENEDICTION

Pastor: Go in the peace of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*Children ages 5 through 5th grade may be dismissed for Junior Church,
located in the Thomas Room, during the reading of the scripture.*

THE SCRIPTURE

Acts 3: 12-19 NT page 120

Luke 24:36b-48 NT page 91

Reader: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Robin Cooney

MORNING PRAYERS

OFFERING OF TITHES, GIFTS AND LIVES TO CHRIST'S SERVICE

If you wish to give, you can give online at www.erucc.org, by placing your gift in the offering plates in the rear of the sanctuary before or after the service, or by scanning the QR code to give from your phone.



OFFERTORY

Ascription of Praise

Senior Choir
– D. Schwoebel

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We are here to offer a portion from our abundance – our time, our energy, our resources. May we begin with gratitude, giving thanks to God who is steadfast in love and faithful.

God, we give you our thanks for all that we have and all we are. May the tithes, gifts, and offerings we bring be of healing service to our hurting world. May our collective offering be an expression of love and healing through the risen Christ.

*CLOSING HYMN

Yours Is the Glory, Resurrected One

#253

Yours is the glory, Resurrected One!

Endless is the victory you o'er death have won.

**Angels clothed in radiance rolled the stone away;
conquered is the grave in which your body lay.**

Refrain: **Yours is the glory, Resurrected One!
Endless is the victory you o'er death have won.**

**See, it is Jesus, Jesus has appeared;
do not doubt at all for nothing you will fear.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing;
tell it without ceasing: Death has lost its sting. [Refrain]**

**Am I still frightened? One whom I adore,
Jesus, lives again, gives peace forever more.
Jesus is my victory, life and strength and Head;
Jesus is my glory, nothing shall I dread. [Refrain]**

***BENEDICTION**

Go now having laid down your burdens.

Go with a freer spirit standing tall.

Go to proclaim God's message of justice, grace, and love.

Go pointed toward purpose, knowing you have a church home that welcomes you fully and completely.

Go to love deeply and show great care.

Go now in peace and love.

Amen.

POSTLUDE *Please be seated.*



*Today, we welcome Brennen Robert Marsh through the Sacrament of Baptism.
Brennen is the child of Breanne Marsh and the grandchild of Bob and Suzanne Marsh.*

WORSHIP NOTES: Today's prayers are from Seasons of the Spirit.

FELLOWSHIP

Please join us after worship in our Community Room for a time of fellowship with light refreshments. The Community Room is accessible by stairs or elevator on the 1st floor.

The flowers on the altar this morning are placed as a symbol of our offerings to God. May they praise the life and hope that Jesus Christ gives us, honor our loved ones, and give thanks for our blessings.

The yellow rose is presented by John Stush in memory of his uncle, Michael Gbur, who perished in WWII.

Attendance Last Sunday, April 7: 18 at 8:30 AM, 151 at 10:30 AM, and 51 online.

Attendance Easter Sunday, March 31: 14 at 8:30 AM, 265 at 10:30 AM, and 68 online.



Watch worship live every Sunday at 10:30 AM or on-demand:

<https://sundaystreams.com/go/ERUCC>

Serving Today: April 14

Scripture Reader: Robin Cooney
Deacons: Robin A. Brady-Slifer
Robin L. Brady-Slifer
Elder: Marc Kline
Greeters: Cathie Duncan, Nancy Manthey
Marj Berkheimer
Welcome: Julie Clark, Sue Pinner
Audio/Visual: Larry Martin, Jeff Baker
Kelly Esslinger
Nursery: Dawn Lagrotteria
Fellowship: Ave and Cliff Barr, Jen Powell
Joan and Allen Maples
Pat Condo, Bud Rossig

Serving Next Week: April 21

Darryl Glick
Matt Davis, Harrison Fisher
Tyler L. York
Tom and Rachel Ford
Felecia Bishop
Jeanellen Kallevang
Rodney Martin, Jeff Schaeberle
Jeff Baker
Stephanie Fisher
Karen Justice, Marj Berkheimer
Peter Brehm, Felecia Bishop
Rob McGuire, Alex Martinez

Next Sunday: April 21 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:5-12 | John 10:11–18

Jesus identifies himself in terms that people of his day and culture could understand – “I am the good shepherd.” Being a good shepherd is linked to knowing the sheep and laying down one’s life for the sheep.

The Senior Choir will be singing. Jenna Duranko will offer special music on the marimba.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTORAL CARE

Evangelical Reformed UCC wants to be there for you when you're experiencing an illness, hospitalization, or other life event for which you, or someone you love, may need a visit.

ERUCC members who are in nursing homes and those who currently reside in their homes but are unable to come to regular Sunday morning services will continue to receive visits (and communion) from Rev. Bob Manthey.

If emergency pastoral care is needed in the case of crisis, death, or severe illness, please contact the church office at (301) 662-2762 or erucc@erucc.org.

PRAYER LIST

We always ask permission before adding a name to be included in the prayer list or in the verbal announcements on a Sunday morning. There are many for whom we pray and visit whose names are not listed in the bulletin by their request.

Please remember the following people in your prayers:

Mary Staley
Charlie Woodward
Milt Crutchley
Sherry Murray
Jack Mens
Charlotte Blue and Family
(friends of Jean Fish & Barb Biser)
Mark Ulrich
Emogene Wyand
Richard Leslie
Bob Pinner
Betsy Fisher
Delmar Speak
Donna Hill (mother of Collen Baldree)
Philip Hill (father of Colleen Baldree)
Tanya Pearre (sister of Colleen Baldree)

Jim Baldree (father of Chuck Baldree)
Anne Gallagher (friend of Milt and Bettie Joe Crutchley)
Lee Thomas
Joan Thomas (mother of Dan Smith's friend)
Autumn Crutchley
Jason Rhoads
Nathan Cable
Greg Rhoads
Marcia Eisenstein
Derek C. Hupp (grandson of Beanie & Gaylon Cornell)
Wayne Kolb (friend of Stefan and Judi Mach and Tony and Linda LaFianza)
Jeannette Johnson

Jackie Keyser (sister-in-law of Betsy and Phil Selby)
Barbara Lee Crutchley (sister of Milt Crutchley)
Marcy Channell (daughter of JoAnn Fritz)
Paige Coffey
Fran Wenner
Bonnie Devilbiss
Tina Prescott (daughter-in-law of Barbara & Bill Prescott)
Mary Remsberg
Heleen (sister of Karin Mens)
Kathy Blue Shores (friend of Jean Fish & Barb Biser)
Gretchen Manuel (niece of Audrey Rayfield)

Remember to notify the church office when you want your request removed from the prayer list.

Today at ERUCC

LET'S TALK: BOOK STUDY OF CASTE

led by The Rev. Richard Leslie and Peter Brehm

Sundays, April 7, 14, 21, 28

Community Room

9:30 – 10:15 AM

Richard Leslie and Peter Brehm will co-lead a study of the book *Caste* by Isabelle Wilkerson for four Sundays in April. Participating in this class will offer many “ah-ha moments,” maybe some discomfort and lots of opportunity for discussion and reflection.

In Caste, Isabel Wilkerson gives us a masterful portrait of an unseen phenomenon in America as she explores, through an immersive, deeply researched, and beautifully written narrative and stories about real people, how America today and throughout its history has been shaped by a hidden caste system, a rigid hierarchy of human rankings.

Mark your calendar and plan to attend *Let's Talk* in April to be part of this important conversation. If you would like to participate but need a book (\$17), contact the church office at erucc@erucc.org or (301) 662-2762.

LET'S STUDY THE BIBLE with Revs. John and Rebecca Shillingburg

Sundays

North Room / Zoom

9:00 – 10:15 AM

Zoom: bit.ly/ERSunstudy

Meeting ID: 893 8670 5888

Passcode: 327128

We are studying the foundational stories of the Old Testament, the big stories in the order they occurred. No prior experience needed; just bring your Bible.

In April, we will be skipping lightly through Ezra, Nehemiah, and other post-Exile scriptures to see how the people returning from Babylon struggled to rebuild their lives and the Judean community.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

9:30 – 10:10 AM

We have two classrooms for **Children's Sunday School**. Our Pre-K – 2nd Grade class meets in the Liz Coffey Room and our 3rd – 5th Grade class meets in the Thomas Room.

Our **Youth Sunday School** class for 6th – 12th Grade meets in the Clapp Conference Room in the Parish House Church Offices from 9:30 – 10:20 AM.

Youth Sunday School will not meet on April 21 due to the Youth Group trip to Pittsburgh.



PASTORAL TRANSITION

Heritage - Mission - Leadership - Connections - Future

Learn more about our interim journey at www.erucc.org/transition

HISTORIC CLOCK TOWER PROJECT AND FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Sunday, April 14

Community Room/Zoom

during Fellowship

Zoom: bit.ly/twr0414

Meeting ID: 884 1553 9939

Passcode: 638790

Plans to restore and secure the historic clock tower are moving forward. Plans are also moving ahead to address funding the project. Read more about the campaign here: bit.ly/3TncfaC

A presentation will be given during fellowship time on Sunday, April 14. You will be updated on the project needs and where we stand. There will also be an opportunity for questions. We agreed as a church that the tower must be repaired. The time is upon us. Be sure to stay after church on April 14 to learn how we can get it done.

YOUNG ADULT GAME AFTERNOON

Sunday, April 14

North Room

after Fellowship – 3:00 PM

ERUCC's young adults will gather in the North Room after Fellowship for an afternoon of games. Come join the fun!

GET OUT THE VOTE – OUR FAITH, OUR VOTE

Monday, April 15

Community Room

1:30– 3:00 PM

ERUCC's Get Out the Vote effort continues on Monday, April 15. Come join the campaign by writing postcards to people who historically do not vote and are underrepresented. We have the script and addresses; we need your help in filling out postcards.

Let us know you're coming: bit.ly/3PVatws

For more information, contact Kathleen Jefferson (kathleen.jefferson@gmail.com) or Rebecca Shillingburg (rebecca.shillingburg@gmail.com).

Ways to Give to Evangelical Reformed UCC

WEBSITE

www.erucc.org/give



one time or recurring gifts

GIVE THE NEW WAY



We're moving to a better way of giving. Scan to try it for yourself!

CASH OR CHECK

made payable to
Evangelical Reformed UCC
15 W. Church St,
Frederick MD 21701



offering plates
are available in the
rear of the sanctuary
before and after worship

This Week at ERUCC

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY with Rev. Rebecca Shillingburg

Tuesdays

North Room / Zoom

11:00 AM

Zoom: bit.ly/3TdUnOy

Meeting ID: 875 1423 3398

Passcode: 973365

A new study began March 26 using *Living the Questions: The Wisdom of Progressive Christianity*. Revs. David Felten and Jeff Procter-Murphy, along with an all-star cast of Bible scholars and top church teachers, provide a primer to a church movement that encourages every Christian to "live the questions" instead of "forcing the answers." We will supplement our reading with the DVD course of the same name, *Living the Questions: The Wisdom of Progressive Christianity*, which includes commentary from such bestselling authors as Diana Butler Bass, John Shelby Spong, Marcus Borg, John Dominic Crossan, Brian McLaren, and others. Books are available through the church office for \$10.

2nd ANNUAL GREEN TEAM NETWORKING EVENT

Tuesday, April 16

Community Room

6:30 – 8:00 PM

Let's share, learn from, and support each other in creating a more sustainable, just, and healthy Frederick County at this event we are co-hosting with the Multi-Faith Alliance of Climate Stewards (MACS). Our ERUCC family is encouraged to attend to see all the great things being done across Frederick County to care for the earth.

We would also love to have some ERUCC volunteers to greet, direct visitors and manage the food and drinks!

Contact Linda Coyle, lkcoyle@yahoo.com, to RSVP or volunteer.

TUESDAY EVENING YOGA

Tuesdays

NEW LOCATION: Trinity Chapel

7:00 PM

Join our drop-in Tuesday night yoga class! You will need to bring yoga mat, blocks if used, and a water bottle. Each class is \$10. Questions? Contact Renae, rdkline15@gmail.com.

Starting April 16, yoga classes will be held in Trinity Chapel's large ground-floor classroom. To access the classroom, walk through the gate to the left of the building, down the walkway to the chapel's side door, and then into the hallway leading to the classroom.



WEDNESDAY EVENING LET'S STUDY THE BIBLE with Rev. John Shillingburg
Wednesdays **North Room / Zoom** **7:00 PM**

Zoom: bit.ly/ERwedstudy Meeting ID: 892 1764 4500 Passcode: 848933

Like the Sunday morning class, this evening class offers an opportunity to read and discuss the scriptures, looking at them in their original context, considering when and by whom they were written, and how they have been interpreted through the centuries. All you need is a Bible; no prior knowledge is necessary.

In April we will be studying the story of the Exodus – one of the two central stories of the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament). How did God free the people from Egyptian slavery, and how did God shepherd the people in the wilderness? Netflix is releasing a three-part retelling of the Exodus story on March 27. As a companion piece, we'll consider how well it treats the biblical text and the larger truths about the story.

Upcoming at ERUCC

NEW FRIENDS OPEN HOUSE AT ERUCC

Friday, April 26 **Back Patio** **5:00 – 7:00 PM**

On Friday, April 26, ERUCC's lay leadership is hosting new members and attendees of worship and other congregational activities at a New Friends Open House from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. The event is intended to provide fellowship and a chance to have a beverage, nibble on light snacks, and meet new and longer-term people who are engaged in the church's life.

The event is an open house, so everyone is invited to arrive and depart based on their needs and schedule. The event is planned to take place on the back patio; if it rains, we will move inside. Dress is casual (including shorts, based on the weather!). Childcare will be available in the nursery. There is no cost, and no need to bring anything.

To help us with planning, please RSVP with the name(s) of people who plan to attend, including whether anyone attending from your household will need nursery or childcare. Please email your RSVP by April 24 to erucc@erucc.org.

EVERYBODY'S BIRTHDAY

Saturday, May 4 **Community Room** **5:00 – 7:00 PM**

Happy birthday to you! And you ... and you .. and you! Join your church family for our annual fun dinner and dessert social to celebrate *everybody's* birthday. We will sit together at birthday tables to get to know each other a little bit more.

Want to decorate a birthday table or contribute to the meal? **Sign up:** bit.ly/3JdYyGj

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, May 5

Community Room / Zoom

12:00 PM

Our annual meeting will be Sunday, May 5, in the Community Room, with lunch being served immediately following worship. We will be electing new elders, deacons, and committee chairs. Members and friends of the congregation may also participate via Zoom.

Zoom information and the slate of nominees from the Nomination Committee will be available in advance of the meeting.

Children and Youth Ministry

JUNIOR CHURCH

Junior Church, a space to join in creative spiritual formation activities, meets most Sundays, except the first Sunday of each month when we observe Communion. Children aged 5 – 5th grade may go to Junior Church in the Thomas Room after the Thought for the Day in the worship service. Parents should pick up children from Junior Church following service.

YOUTH GROUP – PITTSBURGH DAY TRIP

April 21

After an early morning departure, we will explore some of the city's highlights, including the Duquesne Incline and Heinz Museum.



**LOVE IS
LOUDER**
Love Your Neighbor **OUT LOUD**

Other Announcements

YOUNG ADULT ACTIVITY PACK

As we continue to support young adults, we have been asked to help provide an activity pack for hanging out in the park. If you are interested in contributing, you can purchase an item from the list and bring it to the church office or you can email Pastor Kirstin, ksrhoads@erucc.org, to make a donation towards these items! An Amazon card would allow the group to purchase some board games as well.

Wish List: bit.ly/4aNDn9Y

SERVICE OF INSTALLATION FOR THE REV. KATIE PENICK

Sunday, April 21 **Trinity UCC, 3229 York St, Manchester MD** **2:00 PM**

The Catoctin Association, Central Atlantic Conference, United Church of Christ and Trinity United Church of Christ in Manchester cordially invite your presence and prayers to the Service of Installation for Rev. Katie Penick as pastor to the congregation.

Clergy who wish to robe and process should arrive one-half hour prior to the service to robe, pray and prepare for the processional. Stoles should reflect the liturgical color of red. There will be a reception of light refreshments following the service.

ERUCC SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

ERUCC is fortunate to have several scholarship programs available to our members as they seek educational opportunities to develop knowledge and skills in the realization of their full potential. These scholarships are gifts to church members for post-secondary undergraduate education and are awarded by the Scholarship Committee. The awards are based on the quality of the candidate's plan for use of the funds, the ability and promise of the applicant, and the need for financial assistance. The aid may continue for subsequent years after an interview with the Scholarship Committee, submission of intent to reapply, and a transcript of grades for the current year.

All application materials must be submitted to the Scholarship Committee through the Church Office by the **April 30 deadline**.

Request an application for new or renewing applicants by email: erucc@erucc.org.

INVISIBLE SYSTEMS: MY EXPERIENCE OF PRIVILEGE AND RACISM

Sunday, April 28 **St. Katharine Drexel Catholic Church** **2:00 PM**

The Social Justice Ministry at Saint Katharine Drexel (8428 Opossumtown Pike) is sponsoring a performance, followed by a facilitated conversation, looking at issues of personal and systemic privilege and racism. The event will include music, storytelling, and reflection.

Sunday Morning Schedule

subject to change

8:30 – 9:15 AM	Early Worship Service , Sanctuary
9:00 AM	Coffee and Conversation , Kieffer Lobby, 2 nd Floor
9:00 – 10:15 AM	Let's Study the Bible , North Room, 2 nd Floor
9:30 – 10:15 AM	Let's Talk , Community Room, 1 st Floor
9:30 AM – 12:00 PM	Nursery Care , 1 st Floor
9:30 – 10:10 AM	Sunday School <i>Pre-K – 2nd Grade</i> , Liz Coffey Room, 2 nd Floor <i>3rd – 5th Grade</i> , Thomas Room, 2 nd Floor <i>Youth (6th – 12th Grade)</i> , Clapp Conference Room, Church Office
10:10 – 10:25 AM	Children's Music and Movement , Liz Coffey Room, 2 nd Floor
10:30 – 11:30 AM	Worship , Sanctuary and Online at www.erucc.org Junior Church , Thomas Room, 2 nd Floor <i>Children are dismissed from the sanctuary after Thought for the Day during Worship</i>
11:30 AM	Fellowship , Community Room, 1 st Floor

Stay Informed

TRINITY CHIMES

Read the ERUCC monthly newsletter, *Trinity Chimes*! Find printed copies in the back of the sanctuary or read online at <https://erucc.org/category/news/monthly-newsletter/>.

WEEKLY THURSDAY THOUGHTS EMAIL

Subscribe to receive our weekly email newsletter at <http://eepurl.com/gDNCu5> or by scanning the QR code!



Mission Statement of Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ

We, the members of this congregation, seek to celebrate in word and deed the gospel of Jesus Christ, by nurturing spiritual growth through worship, study and prayer; by caring for one another as God cares for us; and by proclaiming God's love for all people as we work to help our neighbors near and far. We commit ourselves to develop and implement specific programs to fulfill our mission.

Worship services and events at Evangelical Reformed UCC are sometimes photographed and videotaped to document the vibrant life of our church. If you do not wish to be included in these recordings, please notify a deacon or the church office. Always obtain permission prior to sharing images and videos that include minors on your personal social media.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 14, 2024

Luke 24:36b-48

"Christ Among Us"

Luke 24: 41-43 *Yet for all their joy they were still disbelieving and wondering, and he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.*

Dear Brother Jesus, Dear Christ now Risen -
We are always asking you for things, it seems.
Someone wants healing from illness.
Someone needs freedom from addiction.
The nations cry for peace.
The groaning planet sighs for relief.
For these we pray in our requests,
We pray also that we will recognize
You when you give us these things - healing, freedom, peace, relief.

But hey there Jesus, hey there Christ now Risen,
Here is how we will actually-factually recognize you.
One day, You will come to us.
We'll be sitting together,
(probably wondering aloud where you've gotten to now)
and there you'll be.

You'll say, "Do you have anything to eat here, siblings?"

That day, you might be in one of your
disconcerting disguises, brother Jesus.
You might not smell good or speak our language.
You might not look like us or think like us.

But this is how you let us know
That we can recognize you.
Because you will ask us, like this,
"Don't you have anything to eat here?"
And all we will be able to say is yes, yes, yes.
And then, Oh! It's you!



8 1/2" x 14" UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE